

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a secure method of deciding on a communication channel in a data decompression device, the compressor detects channels that vary from one frame to another, which are referred to as "active" channels. It transmits active and passive channels in a data block which also contains a state code locating the active data in the starting frame in order to be able to reconstitute it in the decompressor. A reference pattern is transmitted incorporating the passive channels and a majority vote statistical analysis is applied to the states of the passive channels to decide on the state (0 or 1) of each bit constituting the pattern repeated by each passive channel. One particular application of the method is to a satellite telecommunication system.